

Application No: 10/070,867  
Attorney's Docket No: IT 010006

### CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

#### Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of coding a data stream-(S1,S2), the method comprising:  
channel coding-(11) respective partitions of a given part of the data stream with different  
error protection rates to obtain a coded data stream-(WS1,WS2); and  
including-(14,20) a single length information (1f) ~~field~~ field concerning respective lengths of  
the respective partitions in the coded data stream-(WS1,WS2).
2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length information (1f)  
~~field~~ field includes the lengths of the partitions before channel coding.
3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length information-(1f)  
~~field~~ field includes the lengths of the partitions after channel coding.
4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length information-(1f)  
~~field~~ field is included after a resync marker-(H5) of the given part of the data stream-(S1,S2).
5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data stream-(S1,S2)  
includes at least one marker-(H1...H5) out of a predetermined set of at least two mutually different

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markers ~~(H1...H5)~~, the marker indicating a start of a given part of the data stream, the method further comprising:

representing ~~(13)~~ the at least one marker ~~(H1...H5)~~ with a higher robustness word ~~(WH1...WH5)~~ having a higher robustness to channel errors than the at least one marker; and  
outputting ~~(14)~~ the data stream with the at least one marker represented with the higher-robustness word ~~(WH1...WH5)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of decoding a coded data stream ~~(WS1, WS2)~~, in which coded data stream respective partitions of a given part of the coded data stream have been channel encoded with different error protection rates, the coded data stream further includes a single length information ~~(1f) field field~~ concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream, the method comprising:

reading ~~(40)~~ the length information ~~(1f) field field~~; and  
channel decoding ~~(31)~~ the coded data stream ~~(WS1, WS2)~~ using the length information ~~(1f) field field~~ to obtain a decoded data stream ~~(S1, S2)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:

deleting ~~(40, 31, 34)~~ the length information ~~(1f) field field~~ from the coded data stream.

8. (Currently Amended) An encoder for coding a data stream ~~(S1, S2)~~, the encoder comprising:

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a channel encoder-(11) for channel coding respective partitions of a given part of the data stream with different error protection rates to obtain a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2); and

means-(14, 20) for including a single length information-(1f) field field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream-(WS1, WS2).

9. (Currently Amended) A decoder for decoding a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2), in which coded data stream respective partitions of a given part of the coded data stream have been channel encoded with different error protection rates, the coded data stream further including a single length information-(1f) field field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream, the decoder comprising:

means-(40) for reading the length information field; and

means-(31) for channel decoding the coded data stream-(WS1, WS2) using the length information-(1f) field field to obtain a decoded data stream-(S1, S2).

10. (Currently Amended) A transmitter for transmitting a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2), the transmitter comprising:

an encoder for coding a data stream-(S1, S2), the encoder including

a channel encoder-(11) for channel coding respective partitions of a given part of the data stream with different error protection rates to obtain a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2), and

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means-(14, 20) for including a single length information ~~(1f) field~~ field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream-(WS1, WS2); and  
means-(14) for transmitting the coded data stream-(WS1, WS2).

11. (Currently Amended) A receiver for receiving a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2), the receiver comprising:

means-(30) for receiving the coded data stream; and  
a decoder for decoding a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2), in which coded data stream respective partitions of a given part of the coded data stream have been channel encoded with different error protection rates, the coded data stream further including a single length ~~field~~ information field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream, the decoder including

means-(40) for reading the length information ~~field~~ field, and  
means-(31) for channel decoding the coded data stream-(WS1, WS2) using the length information-(1f) ~~field~~ field to obtain a decoded data stream-(S1, S2).

12. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented coded data stream-(WS1, WS2) in which respective partitions of a given part of the coded data stream have been channel encoded with different error protection rates, the coded data stream further comprising a single length information ~~(1f) field~~ field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream.

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13. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented storage medium ~~(15)~~ on which a coded data stream ~~(WS1, WS2)~~ has been stored, the coded data stream having respective partitions of a given part of the coded data stream ~~have been~~ channel encoded with different error protection rates, the coded data stream further comprising a single length information ~~(1f) field~~ field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream.